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#### OFFICE OF TRANSFORMATION

RIDE's Office of Transformation wishes to thank every parent, teacher, student and community member that came out for the Charter Performance Management Community Forum on August 12th. The robust discussion, thoughtful questions and enthusiastic contributions demonstrated that we are all thinking about the best ways to reform our schools for student success. We wish to acknowledge Rose Mary Grant and the staff at Highlander for their gracious hospitality. We also appreciate the help of our small group facilitators, Mike Macombie, Jason Becker, Nell Sears, Rebecca Weinberg, Elsa Dure, MaryEllen Butke, Drew Allsop, Leslie Wilder, and Jane Piccotti.

Notes from the evening are posted on our Facebook page and will be posted shortly on RIDE's Charter Schools webpage. We encourage you all to read them; many valuable contributions were shared. A few major themes emerged over the course of the evening:

#### **Mission Matters**

Overwhelmingly, participants were interested in having their schools held accountable for delivering on their missions. Families highlighted that it was a strong motivation for choosing particular schools.

#### **Student Growth**

Every group emphasized the importance of using student-level growth to evaluate schools. Over and over again, when discussing evaluating student's academic performance, we heard, "it's not where students are, but where they came from and where they are going that matters."

#### **Dedicated Staff**

Over the course of the night, several families recounted stories of educators who took extra steps to ensure that family's needs were met. There was a strong desire to develop methods that would push all educators to this standard.

#### **Student, Community and Family Engagement**

Many community members expressed interest in having RIDE measure how their voices were being heard in their schools and how thoroughly students were being engaged.

#### **Safe and Supportive School Climate**

It is a primary concern for *all* participants, that schools were places where students were well cared for and properly monitored. Many also felt that schools should be held accountable for providing environments conducive to student success.

We are working diligently to integrate these ideas into our charter school accountability system in measurable and appropriate ways. We hope to share some of this work with you during another community forum soon. Check back here or at RIDE's Charter Schools website in the next few weeks for more information. We look forward to seeing you all again soon!